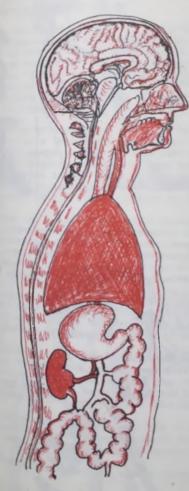
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A MATTER OF



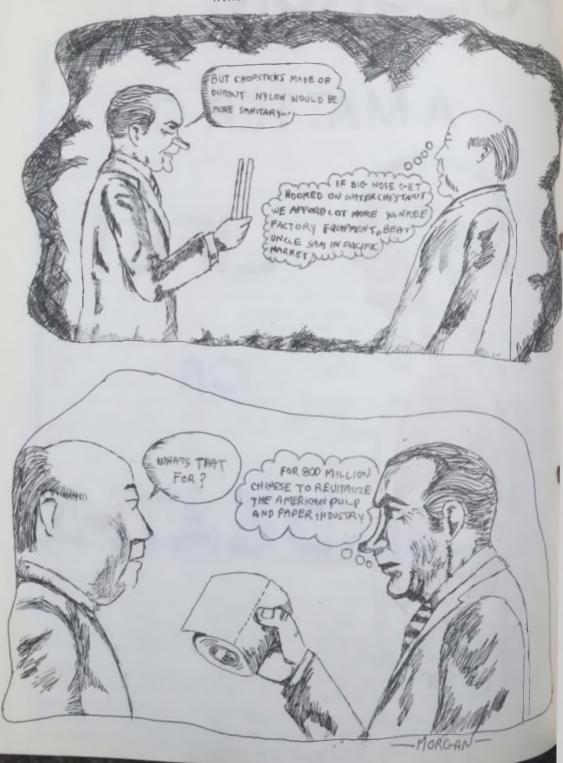
LIFE!

OR



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NIXON'S VISIT TO CHINA



A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH

As if man doesn't have enough to worry about what with the possibilities of making an early demise via industrial accident or disease, through war or automobile accident, there is now proof that worry itself can kill people.

The January '72 issue of FORTUNE reveals that several groups of medical researchers have collected an impressive array of evidence that emotional factors are primarily responsible for many chronic diseases, notably heart disease. Contrary to what is generally accepted, these doctors estimate that stress poses a greater peril to man than do cigarettes, fatty diet and lack of proper exercise. FORTUNE gets mighty close to the Materialist concept when they define stress as "the body's involuntary reactions to the demanding life that we... choose—or that chooses us."

These reactions are part of man's nature and go back deep in the prewritten history of man. When primative man was threatened by another animal his whole system reacted with a mighty surge of his bodily resources. Into his blood flashed adrenal secretions that mustered strength in the form of both sugar and stored fats to his muscles and brain, instantly mobilizing full energy, and stimulating pulse, respiration, and blood pressure. His digestive orgulation chemistry immediately prepared to resist wounds with quick clotting. Red cells poured from the spleen into the stepped-up blood circulation to help the respiratory system take in oxygen and cast off carbon dioxide.

The system of modern man reacts in very much the same way in the event of a put down from a superior or a threatened lay-off etc. The problem today is that most see no way to either fight or escape. In situations like this the inner rage that consequently builds up has only one target—the owner of rage himself. So it is that the hard driving ambitious executive, that is the dream of most capitalist concerns, is a prime candidate for an early coronary. Or he might get off lightly with migrains, ulcers, asthma, ulcerative colitis or even scalp itch. Even accidents are more likely under these conditions of stress.

Medicine has been attempting to counter these conditions by having the victims pop pills when stress arrises. Unfortunately their legalized "highs" are usually followed by periods of depression. Violent exercise, long the supposed cure-all poses as no guarantee and may give rise to another stress symptom--lower back pain. Neither do fat free diets provide a solution for a condition of stress will up the body's serum cholosterol no matter what the diet; giving rise to a situation where man's body preys internally upon itself.

itresses on married life are known to cause problems such as temporary impotence and yet another more phenomenal illness pair—that of the wife with rheumatoid arthritis and the bushand with peptic ulcer. Evidence exists that this is primarily result of the aminitious wife and the husband who can not or will not gratify her yearning for public esteem.

The point is that these stresses arise from the Capitalist system. Competitive stress on the job arises from capitalism's driving need to make more sales, profits and to lower production costs combined with the individual's need for more income to give him more comfort and hoped for security for his family. The socially ambitious wife is a result of conditioning that arises from this relationship.

Capitalistically oriented FORTUNE is likely to be something less than overjoyed to find that they have been providing arguments for Socialism but the story is there for those who would see. John R.P. French Jr. of University of Michigan & Institute for Social Research lays

*Biochemical research at the University of British Columbia has also made this discovery.

the problem pretty much to the job—"The stresses of today's organization can pose serious threats to the physical wellbeing of organization members." In a national survey his colleague Robert L. Kahn found evidence of widespread occupational stress, namely: 1. Complaints about job ambiguity, meaning a lack of clarity about the scope and responsibilities. 35%. 2. Trapped in situations conflict on the job, caught in the middle between people who wanted different things from them—48%. 3. Work—overload—either more work than they could possibily finish during an ordinary working day or more than they could do well enough to preserve their self esteem—45%.

Those unfamiliar with Socialism's objectives might ask where the hell Socialists get off all this. Well of course there are no examples of Socialism to go by so we can only contrast Socialism's theory with Capitalism's reality.

It is difficult to get any real meaning for the worker out of Capitalism's greater sales and more profit and lower costs etc. Mankind could on the other hand find meaning and personal satisfaction within Socialism's motivation of providing the needs of mankind, Capitalism's competition naturally gives rise to conflict between individuals competing for position and between the interests of the individual and interest of the Capitalist organization. There of course will need to be organization in Socialist society but the social motivated productive aim of providing society's needs instead of shareholders profits could reflect on the organization and soon replace Capitalism's destructive competition with Socialism's creative co-operation. As to job overload one has only to look at the top heavy paraphernalia of the Capitalist system to realize how wasteful in manpower (as well as resources) it engenders -- banking, selling, overseers to spy on other workers and overseers to spy on the overseers, an armed state to protect the Capitalists interests from the working class at home and to further their interests against other Capitalist nations abroad. This presently wasted human effort translated into a Socialist wageless moneyless society can represent a tremendous amount in terms of creative leisure and otherwise in freedom of self expression.

One might wonder how these men of science do not come up with Socialist conclusions. But the capitalist class do not lay out the big bucks needed to run these institutions for the purpose of having their employees tell them that the system that allows them to ride on our backs is no bloody good. The capitalist class want these problems to be solved of course. Racked up or dead workers are not a very good source of profit. But they only want a solution that is within their system of exploitation. Some researchers at University of Michigan's Institute are indeed already working on this. They are trying to work out methods of screening employees for their tolerance of stress. Isn't that bloody wonderful? Maybe through artificial selection and by co-operating with so inclined geneticists they can develop the perfect man who can tolerate their office crap, the hundrum monotomy of a production line, who is impervious to the sufferings of war and doesn't give a pinch of chicken shit if he never sees a tree a clear stream or bit of blue sky.

It is interesting to note the evolution of medical profession up to this point. Previously the doctor treated the patient as a whole human being with the idea that some patients were more receptive to certain diseases than others. With the coming of greater knowledge of micro-organisims the medical profession began to ignore the patient and attacked the microbe. Their list of victories is impressive but the hospitals are as full as ever causing many doctors to go back to treating the patient concept. Actually they like their researching counterparts are short of-the mark. If as these researches have found that the major cuase of these illnesses can be traced to the circumstances of the society in which man presently lives then this is where the disease should be attacked. It is therefore a field in which these academics are no more competent than anyone else. Indeed, because of their specialization and their dependence upon the capitalist's financing they may be regarded as having blinkers that keep them from seeing the whole picture. The job of curing

society is therefore the job, not of the specialists but, of everyone and especially the working class as they are the ones who are most adversely effected and who outnumber their counterpart by ten to one

The list of diseases that can be induced by the circumstances of Capitalism is impressive -- eczema, gastric ulcer, diabetes, arthritis, migraine, asthma, ulcerative colitis, T.B. and probably cancer and schizoprenia.

Perhaps man cannot reasonably punch the boss on the snout or smash up the computer that scheduled the plant layoff. But there is a way to fight -- Get with the Socialist movement NOW! It's a matter of life or death!

Larry Tickner

* * *

HIGHEST PAID LIAR IN B.C.

Rehabilitation Minister Philip Gagliardi was called the highest paid liar in B.C. by some disgruntled worker, who probably believes that governments would function in the interests of everyone, if the bad guys could be kept out of politics. His implication that some oliticians are paid to tell lies should have been a sign that duplicity is a socially organized thing, built into the modern rat-race, not merely a result of human failure.

In a class divided society that needs hundreds of thousands of brainwashing positions to be filled, requiring years of study in the subtle art of 20th century conditioning, it would be a debateable question as to which one individual would qualif, as the most hand-somely remunerated. There would be no shortage of expert applicants for such a contest.

In terms of the l6th century fantasy about social strife between devils and angels that still persists, it must be conceded that liars are not made nor born, as separate and sole causes. They have to be born before they can be made, into liars. The army of workers which operates the myth-making industry is fitted with horns at an early age. A labor force of newsmen, college professors-textbook writers, "social scientists," preachers, etc., in addition to politicians, is essential to keep working class minds, that are sophisticated technologically, maive politically.

Aside from legal lying, unofficially encouraged behind the scenes to hide certain aspects of the social structure, there is another type of lying, inadvertantly encouraged by the lop-sided distribution of wealth which results from a property society. This type of lying is involved with a category of human behavior officially designated as crime. And in this context, a recent news item reveals that a gadget used in the U.S. by crime fighters called a lie-detector, was found to be useless when used on a group of actors. To date, the device has never been used on politicians, who are popularily recognized to excel in both acting and lying. (And it is not recommended as a solution to the problem as it would involve dealing with an effect.)

There are some honest politicians, who tell untruths unconsciously. They really think that wage-slavery can be run in the interests of the slaves, and they, therefore cannot be accused of lying, but merely apathetic lack of thinking, in their zeal to keep an unlikely ball rolling. A Progressive-Conservative M.P. in the House of Commons at Ottawa, lames A. McGrath, could be an example of one of these. He seemed to recognize how deeply impregnated both lies and profits are in the present social order; although he did not comment on any order of precedence, as in the alleged "which came first, the chicken or the egg" dilemma. He may not be aware that the institution of profit, the fruit of legal tobbery, makes legal lying necessary, inasmuch as victims will not knowingly allow themselves to be filched.

HIGHEST PAID LIAR IN B.C. (continued)

He was merely complaining about the educational effect on children who are subjected to "sadly misleading" television advertising to sell toys. "Is it any wonder," he said, "grow up deeply suspicious of a society that lies for profit,"

But this is where the real hope lies -- suspicions, doubt, independent thinking. It is feasable to say that the solid iceberg of deceit that exists unperceived below the water is the foundation of the support which the working public gives to this system, but which is gradually being melted away by the water of increasing awareness.

GIVE CITIZENS SOME "HOPE"

Ernie LeCours, a relative amatuer at double-talk, and a Social Credit back-bencher in the provincial legislature said B.C. needs a lottery, "to give the average citizen some hope." It would seem from his terminology that those other citizens, who are <u>above</u> average need no false hopes to keep them motivated. As with the couble millionaires of Russia, where it is obvious that some people are more "equal" than others, so it is apparent that in Canada, some people have more citizenship than others.

Mr. LeCours goes on to say that "two dollar lottery tickets should go on sale at "liquor stores and other government buildings" throughout B.C." de is demonstrating his astuteness as a politician, decorating an old escapist combination — alcohol to deaden the pair pangs and a lottery ticket for doubtful chance at escape from poverty and drudgery.

"Average citizens," he said, "Particularly low income wage earners, aren't going to get far in life and need something to hope for. Let's give him a bit of hope at least a dozen times a year. Let's give him something to look forward to, because that's all he'll ever have. If it weren't for hope, we'd all be in despair."

Perhaps the reason why LeCours is still a back bencher is that his astuteness is modified too much by his naivette. He likely should never have admitted in the legislature that wage workers have little more to look forward to than a dozen slim chances a year at winning financial freedom from compulsory and pointless work.

That the only promise to be found in the present social system is that made by the politicians and the media. So far, the useful section in society is merely reacting. What it sees is a photograph of a painting of a shadow of a statue of mankind. It cannot act intelligently, politically until it sees the system naked and revealed. And while progress is being made, it seems that the slow speed of change is not going to stop the demand for good liars, at top pay and the best of working conditions, for a long time yet.

LEGAL VIOLENCE

A photograph in one of the local daily propaganda sheets shows 6 sweet young things posing with a lethal arsenal of weapons that would scare the pants off any county sherriff, and some local readers. A perusal of the accompanying text is supposed to calm us. These young people are not black panthers, white tigers or new leftists. These are supporters of legal violence. And the girls are all smiling. No mean looks. They are part of the local branch of the Patricia Dufour Navy League Wrennette Corps. And they have made a "contribution to society," by capturing top honors in a national rifle shooting contest. In the anarchaic environmental menage that results from involuntary economic servitude, the state monopolizes on violence, and Rationalizations that explain potential state violence against the majority as being in the interests of the majority cannot hold water.

THE WRONG ANSWER

Mr. Bruno H. Schubert, Editor of the Californian Quarterly; -"THE ANSWER", which propagates the <u>Currency</u> oriented theories of Silvio Gesell; has also been paying some, (alas, not very close) attention to the theories of Karl Marx.

whilst, let it be said, that Mr. Schubert can make some very excellent contributions to the field of <u>Dietetics</u> and <u>Health</u>, his observations on Marx's theories are astonishingly inn-accurate as the following sample quote will show...

"Marx claimed that the employer as owner of the means of production exploits the workers by withholding a part of their wages. Therefore a strike would force the employer to pay the worker a part of his profit". (my italics, G.R.R.) "The Answer@ No. 65, "70.

Mr. Schubert then comments... "This theory is of course, scientifically unsound".

Socialists will agree the above quote certainly is "unsound", but that is no fault of Marx, who made no such claim. What Marx claimed, was that, although the worker did in fact receive the value of his labor-power, (expressed in it's (socially necessary labor-power) warket price of wages), he was nevertheless robbed in the process at the point of procetion because the commodity "labor-power" was capable of producing a value beyond said arket price and this Marx designated as surplus value. It was this hidden exploitation that wark was the first to uncleak.

This is something which Mr. Schubert does not seem to have grasped (along with many others!) and he should take a closer look at what Marx had to say on the subject. Indeed he may then, even discover that he is wasting his energy propagating "currency reform" or devalution via Silvio Gessell's "demutrage" money theories; which leave capitalist society intect as a class divided property owning system.

furthermore, whatever the merits of a "demurrage" currency in the running of a capitalist economy, one thing is certain; it has nothing to do with Socialism, wherein all the various currencies of the Nations of a past capitalist world, will only be seen as exhibits in Museums!

hereas Mr. Schubert has found the wrong answer in his mis-understanding of Marxian theory; Marx found the right answer in his illuminating indictment of the wages system.

The pursuit of a currency based society, offers no solution to the entagonism of an Employer ersus Employee relationship, within the U.S.A. or any other nation. Such a relationship dienates the producing majority from the products of it's own labor-power.

hat is at stake here is the <u>ownership</u> of the world's wealth by a comparitively small capitalist class who are holding the working class majority to "ransom" via the wages system and no amount of currency juggling will remove that "cancer" from society. Only a Socialist revolution can accomplish this urgent task and <u>this</u> is our answer to "The Answer".

G.R. Russell (SPGB.)

THE GARBAGE OF CAPITALISM

Preacher walked at the side of a muddy road after a heavy rainfail and came to an automotic stuck in the mud. He watched as the motorist exhausted all known methods of getting out of a mudhole, then said:

continued on page 8

THE GARBAGE OF CAPITALISM (continued)

"My good man, there is still something you can do in your present distress."

The motorist looked at him wearily and grunted, "Yeh, What,"

"You can pray to the one above. He is always ready with a helping hand."

The motorist stared. "I'll give it a try," he said

He sank to his knees in the mud and prayed long and earnestly, then rose, climbed in the unstarted the motor and drove out of the mudhole and down the road.

The preacher watched as the auto sped into the distance, scratched his head and murmured, "Well, I'll be goddamned!"

Preachers are not all cynics. Some would think the motorist's prayer had been genuinely answered. But the more intelligent would appear serious only with difficulty. It isn't easy to expound hubug convincingly, but it is more rewarding and vastly easier than most alternatives open to those without training or backbone. How can enlightenment at the pulpit compare with the effort needed on a gravel truck,

The preacher will preach because it is hard to earn an honest living.

Something like this is true in a lot of other directions. The expert may in his studies and discussions gain some sound ideas, but he retains his status by not making them known. The TV commentator may believe the things he must talk about are trivial, even childish, but he must pretend they are important, even vital; his income as a commentator depends on it. The editorial writer must write dishonestly or he will be replaced.

Dishonesty is a guiding principle in social affairs. Hitler is credited wrongly as originator of the thought that a big lie told often enough will be believed. Hitler had mentors still in profusion wherever one class holds power over another.

Deception takes ludicrous forms at times. The sporting fand hie themselves to a Detroit hockey game and preface the "face-off" with a hymn to a great nation, then hie themselves to a Toronto game and ring the rafters to another great nation. There was a time when appeals went to the Lord to frustrate the knavish tricks of the king's enemies. The hamful foolishness humans are called on to assimilate and take part in has no limits - and will have no end if the present tempo is the criterion.

Socialism, as we have often pointed out, also gets its kneading and pounding. Socialist "states" are scattered about the earth like weeds in a neglected cabbage patch. Ruthless dictatorships are called peoples democracies and capitalism at its worst is hailed as Socialism victorious. Is it just unhappy fate that workers' republics turn from stunning defense of mutual bonds to invective and violence against each other?

The owning class rest comfortable and secure in the deceptions that keep society floundering, and suffer no hardships from the struggles of those who would make capitalism better or worse in the name of Socialism.

Nor will they need to be concerned until Socialism becomes properly defined in the minds of workers generally. The Socialist Party of Canada is made up of workers no longer deceived whose efforts are intended to spread this clarity. They know that only in this workers man rid himself of the garbage of capitalism and start on the job of building a world worth while.

CAPITALISM:

A WORLDWIDE DIVIDED PREDATORY SYSTEM
A WORLDWIDE HARMONIOUS COOPERATIVE SOCIETY

memanuscript by Marx and Engels of 1845-6, later declared by Marx as having been "abondoned to the gnawing criticism of the mice." fortunately was rescued with but little evidence that the mice had digested much of it. Although a criticism of Bruno Bauer and Max Stirner, it is far more than that, being not only a trenchant criticism of German historiography, but also a scholarly presentation of that view of historic development which has come to be known to the Materialist Conception of History.

Here also is revealed the modern proletariat - a propertyless, wage-earning class, its sole asset - from which it must part - its physical and mental energy. This exploited and oppressed class is shown to be the last class, historically considered, to achieve emancipation, for the opposite of the class (to be exploited and oppressed) stands beneath it. This final emancipation of the humanity as a whole. And in this, say our authors, it "must conquer political power for itself."

in the first chapter of this work (The German Ideology) Marx and Engels give us their view of story:

"The premises from which we begin are not arbitrary ones, not dogmas...They are the real individuals, their activity and the material conditions under which they live...These premises can...be verified in a purely empirical way."

"The first premise of all human history is...the existence of living human individuals. Thus the first fact to be established is the physical organisations of these individuals and their consequent relation to the rest of nature..."

"The way in which men produce their means of subsistence depends first of all on the nature of the actual means of subsistence they find in existence and have to reproduce."

"We set out from real, active men, and on the basis of their real life-process we demonstrate the development of the ideological reflexes and echoes of this life-process..."

"...men developing their material production and their material intercourse, alter, along with their real existence, their thinking and the products of their thinking. Life is not determined by consciousness, but consciousness by life..."

Lere is a vast amount of history, much of it of the Middle Ages, all of which is subjected to sharp analysis — the reader can look this up for himself — but the foregoing truncated excerpts are presented as indicants of the reasoning employed. Having shown that the character of any social order is basically determined by the character of its productive forces, much productive forces are of necessity social, calling for division of labor and cooperation; that as these productive (social) forces are put into operation they tend to increase—
If not, they tend to die, and the social order dies with them. Granted, however, the continued existence of such social and cooperatively operated forces, the increase, the expansion, itself becomes a brake upon further social progress. Instead of growth, decay; expansion gives way to contraction. Yet every social order thus carrying within itself the seeds of its own destruction, develops out of the operation of its expanding social forces potentials which portend the approach of a new social formation, as a decaying feudalism presaged the advent of civil (bourgeois) society. As to "social" and "cooperation" Marx states:

"By social we understand the cooperation of several individuals...It follows from this that a certain mode of production, or industrial stage, is always combined with a certain mode of cooperation, or social stage, and this mode of cooperation is itself a continued on page 10

CAPITALISM - SOCIALISM (continued)

'productive force' ... the multitude of productive forces accessible to men determine the nature of society, hence that the 'history of humanity' must always be studied by treated in relation to the history of industry and exchange."

It is in these arguments that Marx and Engels (perhaps for the first time) perceive the perceive

Thus the view later expressed that capitalism would become a world system, stamp its image on all lands and peoples, and the proletariat also develop this universal character.

I trust I shall be forgiven for these extensive quotations, but there is a reason. Sol taing granted a condition, a stage of development, where is produced an

"'intolerable' power, i.e., a power against which men make a revolution, it must necessarily have rendered the great mass of humanity 'propertyless,' and produced, at the same time, the contradiction of an existing world of wealth and culture, both of which conditions presuppose great increase in productive power...on the other hand, this de-

velopment of productive forces (which itself implies the actual empirical existence of men in their world-historical, instead of local, being) is an absolutely necessary processed premise..."Without this. (1) communism (I use the term "socialism" - WZP) could only exist as a local event; (2), the forces of intercourse themselves could not have developed as universal, hence intolerable powers...; and (3) each extension of intercourse would abolish local communism...(which is only possible as the act of dominant peoples 'all at once' and simultaneously, which presupposes the universal development of productive forces and the world intercourse...."

From these fragmentary extracts (and the contexts from which they have been taken) we can glean a view of capitalism as developing a world system of production and exchange, and a world proletariat as the dynamic force, historically necessary, to transform this predatory class-divided society into a harmonious cooperative one in which abundance for all will be possible.

CAPITALISM IS A WORLD SYSTEM. SOCIALISM MUST ALSO BE. Socialism in one country is a myth growing out of the economic and political needs of Russian State Capitalism.

The translators of this work, standing before the barrel of the authoritarian gun of Russian Capitalism, perpetrate this piece of literary pish-tush. From the appendicular notes #7 (p. 671) concerning this point I quote:

"The conclusion that the proletarian revolution could only be carried through in all the advanced capitalist countries simultaneously, and hence that the victory of the revolution in a single country was impossible,...was correct for the period of premonopoly capitalism.

"Lenin - who took as his starting-point the law of uneven economic and political development of capitalism in the epoch of imperialism discovered by him - came to the conclusion that, in the new historical conditions, the socialist revolution could be victorious at first in a few countries, or even in a single country and pointed out that the victory of the revolution in all or in most countries simultaneously was impossible. This thesis was for the first time set forth in Lenin's article 'On the Slogan for a United State of Europe' (1915)." (Lenin, Collected Works, Moscow, 1964, Vol. 21)

And there we have it. Not the first or only instance of Lenin's distortion of Marx, his mis-quotations, and, impelled by the political and economic needs of his elite administer.

state Capitalism, makes his devious rationalizations.

cotalism in One Country! In Russia and its intimidated satellites, and in its economic and solitical adversary, Mao Tse Tung's China. In Cuba, in Yugoslavia, etc., all of them, not much in "socialist" cooperation, but in capitalist rivalry.

peven economic development. A convenient term to cover a false historical idea. We can asserve the speed within the last two decades where Japan, and China, just to name a couple of states, have closed the gap upon their allegedly more advanced rivals, while Britain, once "Mistress of the Seas," land of classic industry, world leader in colonization, etc., has shrunk to a second-rate power.

Socialism must be world-wide to replace a world-wide SYSTEM of exploitation, and this can be accomplished ONLY by the conscious political act of a world majority.

W. A. Pritchard

Mis issue of FULCRUM was produced through the use of a special machine loaned by I.B.M. for the purse. Unfortunately I.B.M.'s motivation is to make lot of money by selling it to us. Before the Socialist Party will be in a position to afford its purchase there will have to be far greater support of the movement both in the form of active socialist Party membership and in FULCRUM subscribers.

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- That society as at present constituted is based upon the ownership of the means of living (i.e., land, factories, railways, etc.) by the capitalist or master class, and the consequent enslavement of the working class, by whose labor alone wealth is produced.
- That in society, therefore, there is an antagonism of interests, manifesting itself as a class struggle between those who possess but do not produce, and those who produce but do not possess.
- That this antagonism can be abolished only by the emancipation of the working class from the domination of the master class, by the conversion into the common property of society of the means of production and distribution, and their democratic control by the whole people.
- That as in the order of social evolution the working class is the last class to achieve its freedom, the emancipation of the working class will involve the emancipation of all mankind, without distinction of race or sex.
- _That this emancipation must be the work of the working class itself.
- 6. __That as the machinery of government, including the armed forces of the nation, exists only to conserve the monopoly by the capitalist class of the wealth taken from the workers, the working class must organize consciously and politically for the conquest of the powers of government, in order that this machinery, including these forces, may be converted from an instrument of oppression into the agent of emancipation and overthrow of plutocratic privilege.
- That as political parties are but the expression of class interests, and as the interest of the working class is diametrically opposed to the interest of all sections of the master class, the party seeking working class emancipation must be hostile to every other party.
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